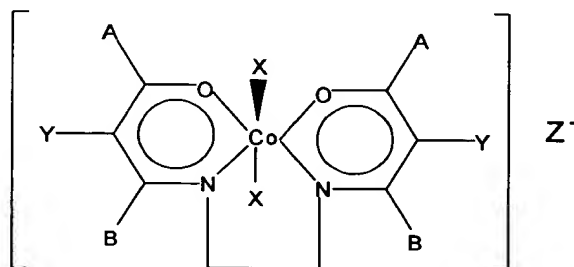


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Human Immunodeficiency Virus and/or Human Papillomavirus infection can be prevented by the topical application of metallo-organic cobalt compounds according to the following formula to the site of infection:



5 I.

wherein each A may be the same or different and is an alkyl group, a phenyl group or a substituted derivative of a phenyl group;

wherein each Y may be the same or different and is hydrogen, an unbranched alkyl group, a halide or a group having the structure $\text{R}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$ wherein R is hydrogen, an

10 alkoxide group, and alkyl group, or OH;

wherein each B may be the same or different and each is hydrogen or an alkyl group;

wherein each X may be the same or different and each is a water soluble group having weak to intermediate ligand field strength; and

Z^- is a soluble, pharmaceutically acceptable negative ion.

15 Metallo-organic cobalt compounds may also be used to disinfect liquids which contain Human Immunodeficiency Virus and/or Human Papillomavirus.